

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An operation input device for allowing an operator to input a movement instruction to an object to be controlled, comprising:

a first movement detection unit for detecting the position and/or attitude of a first operation input unit, wherein the first movement detection unit has at least three degrees of freedom; and

a second movement detection unit, connected to the first movement detection unit, for detecting the position and attitude of a second operation input unit, wherein the second movement detection unit has six degrees of freedom.

2. (Original) The operation input device of claim 1, wherein the first operation input unit and the second operation input unit are connected to the proximal end side of the device by a series of links so that the first movement detection unit is situated on the device proximal end side of the second movement detection unit; the first movement detection unit detects mainly the position of the first operation input unit; and

the second movement detection unit detects the position of the second operation input unit relative to the first operation input unit and the attitude of the second operation input unit.

3. (Original) The operation input device of claim 1 or 2, wherein the first movement detection unit has degrees of freedom for detecting the position of the first operation input unit and degrees of freedom corresponding to a change in the attitude of the first operation input unit caused by a change in position; and the second movement detection unit has degrees of freedom for detecting the attitude of the second operation input unit and degrees of freedom corresponding to a change in the position of the second operation input unit caused by a change in attitude.

4. (Currently Amended) The operation input device of ~~any one of~~ claims ~~claim 1 to 3~~, wherein the first operation input unit has an armrest unit for supporting at least around the wrist of the arm of an operator; the first movement detection unit detects the position and attitude of a part corresponding to the wrist of the operator; the second operation input unit has a holding unit to be held by a finger of the operator; and the second movement detection unit detects the position and attitude of the holding unit.

5. (Original) The operation input device of claim 4, wherein the holding unit has a control lever, and the movement of the control lever can be detected.

6. (Currently Amended) The operation input device of ~~any one of claims~~^{claim} 1 to 4, wherein the first movement detection unit forms the first operation input unit to achieve at least three degrees of freedom with respect to the proximal end of the device with the aid of hinges and links; and the second movement detection unit is connected to the device proximal end side of the first operation input unit of the first movement detection unit and forms the second operation input unit to achieve six degrees of freedom with the aid of hinges and links.

7. (Original) The operation input device of claim 6, wherein the second movement detection unit has a position link unit for detecting the position of the second operation input unit and an attitude link unit for detecting the attitude of the second operation input unit, the position link unit connects two parallel links, and straight lines for connecting a pair of supporting points of the end portions of the parallel links are substantially at 45° from the vertical direction.

8. (Original) The operation input device of claim 6, wherein the position link unit comprises a dead weight compensation mechanism for urging the parallel links in the rotation direction by spring force.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A telecontrol system comprising a control device for controlling an object to be controlled based on position and attitude information to be instructed to an object to be controlled which has been prepared from information on the position of the first operation input unit of the operation input device of ~~any one of claims~~claim 1 to 8 and information on the attitude of the second operation input unit of the operation input device.

11. (Original) The telecontrol system of claim 10, wherein the control device comprises:

first position and attitude calculating means for calculating information on the position of the first operation input unit and information on the attitude of the first operation input unit from the detection information of the first movement detection unit and the detection information of the second movement detection unit of the operation input device;

second position and attitude calculating means for calculating information on the position of the second operation input unit and information on the attitude of the second operation input unit from the detection

information of the first movement detection unit and the detection information of the second movement detection unit of the operation input device; and

transmission instruction value creating means for preparing position and attitude information to be instructed to the object to be controlled from information on the position of the first operation input unit from the first position and attitude calculating means and information on the attitude of the second operation input unit from the second position and attitude calculating means.

12. (Currently Amended) The telecontrol system of claim 10 or 11, wherein the system has switch means which can be operated by the operator, and the control device can change the method of preparing position and attitude information to be instructed to the object to be controlled by selecting only the detection information of the second movement detection unit of the operation input device.

13. (Currently Amended) A telecontrol method comprising the steps of:

preparing position and attitude information to be instructed to an object to be controlled from information on the position of the first operation input unit of the operation input device of ~~any one of claims~~claim 1 to 8 and information on the attitude of the second operation input unit of the operation input device; and

controlling the object to be controlled based on the position and attitude information.

14. (Original) The telecontrol method of claim 13, comprising the steps of:

calculating information on the position and attitude of the first operation input unit from the detection information of the first movement detection unit of the operation input device;

calculating information on the position and attitude of the second operation input unit from the detection information of the first movement detection unit and the detection information of the second movement detection unit of the operation input device; and

preparing position and attitude information to be instructed to the object to be controlled from information on the position of the first operation input unit and information on the attitude of the second operation input unit.

15. (New) The operation input device of claim 1, wherein the first movement detection unit has a first sensor configuration to afford the at least three degrees of freedom, and wherein the second movement detection unit has a second sensor configuration to afford the six degrees of freedom.

16. (New) The operation input device of claim 15, wherein the first sensor configuration has a first plurality of sensors to afford the at least three

degrees of freedom, and wherein the second sensor configuration has a second plurality of sensors to afford the six degrees of freedom.

17. (New) The operation input device of claim 16, wherein the first sensor configuration has five sensors to afford the at least three degrees of freedom, and wherein the second sensor configuration has six sensors to afford the six degrees of freedom.

18. (New) The operation input device of claim 1, wherein the at least three degrees of freedom and the six degrees of freedom are independently detectable, by the first movement detection unit and the second movement detection unit.